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Johnson, George.

PLACE-NAMES OF CANADA.

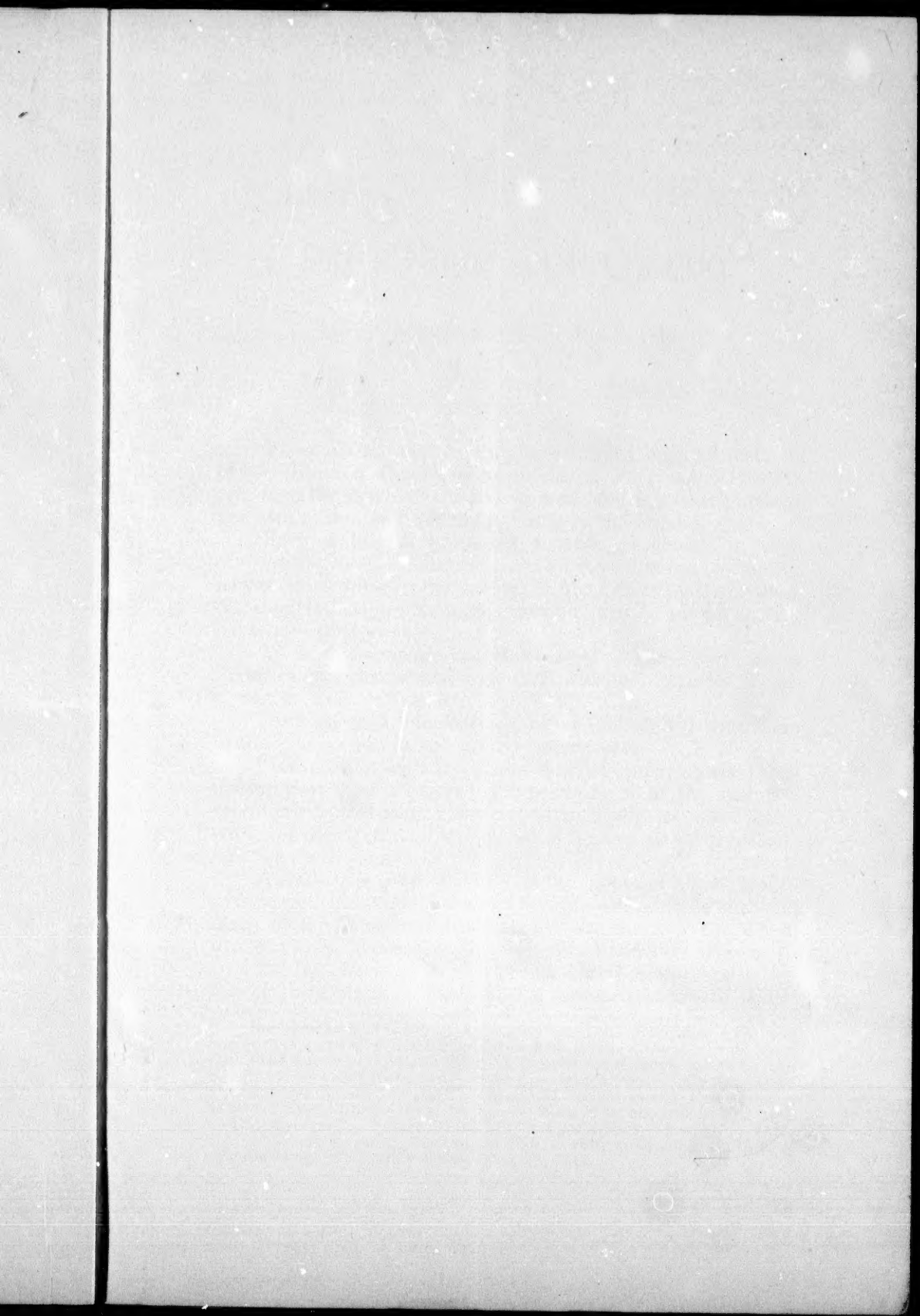
— BY —

George Johnson, F. S. S. (hon.)

READ BEFORE THE OTTAWA SCIENTIFIC SOCIETY, DEC. 3rd, 1897.

PRINTED BY
E. J. REYNOLDS, 127 SPARKS ST.
OTTAWA, 1898.





Place-Names of Canada.

BY GEORGE JOHNSON, F.S.S. (hon.)

[*Read December 3rd, 1897.*]

When all are here and no by-elections on, 213 members of the House of Commons assemble on Parliament Hill* to represent the people of the 200 electoral districts which include the whole country from the Atlantic to the Pacific.

Each of these divisions has a name. Included in each division are many subdivisions, in all cases having distinctive names; excepting in the case of Prince Edward Island, where the subdivisions are distinguished by numerals, to-day as they have been for 130 years.

These divisions are known, in most of the Provinces, as Counties, and the subdivisions as Townships, Parishes, Municipalities, Polling Districts, etc.

Divisions and Subdivisions, as we had to deal with them in the Census, numbered 3,600 census places.

Consultation with the Post Office List provides the information that there are over 9,000 post offices in the country, each with a place-name; some of them duplicates of the place-names of the electoral districts and of the Census subdivisions; most of them not so.

A study of a good map reveals the names of Lakes, Mountain ranges, Mounts, Rivers and Streams—thousands of them; many of the names not duplicated in the names of the Counties, Parishes, Townships, Municipalities and Post Offices.

Taking the map as a guide we travel along the coastline of the Dominion, from the fire-devastated town of Wind-

*Parliament Hill is a very appropriate name. The hills were the ancient places of meeting for conference on public affairs. Thus Mote Hill, near Scone in Scotland, had the famous scone stone on which the Kings of Scotland were crowned and on which, since its removal to Westminster Abbey, during 6 centuries 27 Sovereigns of England and of Great Britain have been crowned. Moot Hills abound in England, and *Ludlow* means "the people's hill." Parliament is French for talk, Hill is Anglo-Saxon. Parliament Hill exactly suits the condition of this double-raced, doubly blessed Canada of ours,

sor, N. S., along both sides of the meadow-decorated Minas Basin and the tide-scourged Bay of Fundy ; round rock-ribbed Nova Scotia ; around the island-sentinelled Gulf of St. Lawrence ; along the Labrador coast that has witnessed for centuries the gay or gloomy procession of icebergs, torn from their colossal cradle of the North and hurried by the Polar current to their grave on the submerged shores of the Gulf Stream ; around the silent Hudson Bay with its ice-fringed coasts ; along the Arctic* littoral, the very home and throne of our "Our Lady of the Snows ;" and adown the Pacific shores over which the *Kuro-siwa*† pours its tempering heat and abundant moisture. Everywhere we find names of islands, of gulfs, bays, coves, harbours, inlets, canals and other indentations of the coast-line—also by the thousand.

We have thus many thousands of place-names to deal with, and every name has a meaning. It had an origin and it has a significance.

To those interested in the study of place-names, the questions naturally arising are (1st) "who gave the name," (2nd) "why was the name given?"

To answer the first question would be to sketch with more or less of detail the place-name Fathers of Canada. Missionaries and navigators, saints and sinners, lordly rulers and humble porters, politicians and civil servants, sovereigns and speculators, explorers and store-keepers, surveyors and railway presidents—English, Basques, Portugese, Spaniards, French and Indians—have scattered, with profuse hand, place-names in every part of the Dominion.

To tell about those who have taken a prominent part in the place-name giving of Canada would be to tell of Cabot, Denys, Hudson ; Cartier, Champlain, Roberval ; Drake, Gilbert, Cook, Vancouver ; Bréboeuf, Rambault, Albanel ; Verandrye, Mackenzie, Frazer ; the Simpsons, George and Thomas ; La Salle, Marquette, Jolliet, Thompson, Henry ; Rae, Simcoe, Guy and Thomas Carleton ; Bayfield, Desbarres, Commander Bolton ; Perley of New Brunswick, Geo. M. Dawson, William Ogilvie, Robert Bell ; W. D. LeSueur, A. P. Low, R. G. McConnell ; J. B. Tyrrell, W. C. Van Horne and many others,

*The Arctic ocean received its name from the Greek word *Arktos*, a bear, on account of the northern constellations of the Great and Little Bear—which sparkle in its waters. Our Great Bear Lake derives its name from the same source.

†The Black Current so called from its dark blue color which contrasts with the green of the ocean through which it flows. *Kuro-Siwa* is a Japanese word.

who during four centuries have been the place-name fathers of the country, on a large scale. It would be to tell of the Browns, the Smiths, the Joneses, the Robinsons and all the other individuals who became "men of light and leading" in a thousand Canadian communities, whose virtues are perpetuated in the Smithvilles, the Bell's Corners, the Bellevieux Coves, the Baker's settlements, etc., and who, by their superior energy or by accidental environment, have given their names to many of our Post Offices. I made a count of these and found that there are over 500 post offices in the country whose names correspond to those of the Post Masters actually ministering to the demands of the several communities for epistolary correspondence and for the ever-welcome family newspapers.

Such stories of the place-name fathers, great and small, would be replete with interest to young and to old alike, each having its full share of moving incident by sea and by land, by flood or by field.

With Cabot, on board the *Matthew*, we would have to scout along the shores of north-east Canada, now cautiously entering unknown straits, now exultingly sailing into broad and deep harbours, disturbed by many storms of wind, but happily undisturbed by the vapourings of a HARRISSE or the disquisitions of a Dawson on the landfall question. With Basques and Portugese we would have to visit almost surreptitiously (modern fishermen-like), rivers such as the St. Lawrence and Miramichi, and follow porpoise and whale far up their courses. With Cartier we would have to venture through the gloomy portals of the Saguenay and pass through the forest-lined waters of the great river, giving names to frowning cliffs, heated bays, luxuriant islands and glorious promontories. With Vancouver we would have to wander, on board the "Discovery" or the "Chatham," amidst the floods and mazes of the Straits of Georgia—now sweeping on under full sail, now moving cautiously and heaving the lead at every point, and now making preliminary explorations in cutter and rowboat, watching the water for hidden rocks and shoals and the land for ambushed natives. With Wm. Baffin or John Davis, or Martin Frobisher* or Henry Hudson or Luke Fox or George Back or Capt. Dease or Edward Perry or John Franklin or Francis McClintoch or Thos. Simpson, we would

*Whose tomb in St. Giles Church was threatened by the great fire in London, Nov. 1897.

have to push our perilous way among the ice-floes of the Arctic slope of our country; study the *Aurora-Borealis* race in that part of the world where, in their most gorgeous garbs, they most rapidly flit ere you can point their place; and endure the monotony of a six months' day and a six months' night as the compass of our year.* With Champlain we would have to traverse the unknown Ottawa, watch the Indians offering tobacco † to their deities on the rocks of the Chaudière Falls, follow the "trough" to Nipissing, and, after many vicissitudes of fortune, gaze upon the waters of the *Mer Douce* (Lake Huron) and of the other Great Lakes.

With Verandrye we would have to make journeys full of perils from Lake Superior to Lake Winnipeg, and thence along the rivers of the plains. With Sandford Fleming‡ we would have to cross from "Ocean to Ocean" by unknown paths over the mountain ranges of British Columbia. With Geo. M. Dawson and Wm. Ogilvie, we would have to enter the Yukon region, watch McConnell make a micrometer survey of the Stikine, and Ogilvie secure chronometer longitudes for the establishment of the boundary line, and help Dawson name Mounts *Lorne* and *Lansdowne* and *Logan* and *Jubilee* and a score of other places—shoot, with these explorers, the White Horse Rapids, and scale the Chilkoot or the Chilkat Pass—chilled to the bone. With Dr. Robert Bell we would have to foot it in the inhospitable country of Nipigon or of Baffin Land, or in the hydrographic basin beyond the sources of the Ottawa river, where the *Bell* river tintinnabulates through golden sands into Rupert Bay, where Mount *Laurier* lifts high its crest, and where Lake *Beatrice* recalls Lord Lansdowne's gentle daughter and her brilliant marriage ceremony of a month ago. Under the guidance of J. B. Tyrrell we would have to penetrate the Barren Lands and discover and name in 1893 the *Geikie* River, 900 miles long, "in honor of Professor James Geikie of Edinburgh, who has done so much to foster the study of glacial geology."

*For the effect of these voyages on English literature see Sedgwick, *Atlantic Monthly*, March, 1898.

†Mr. Moncure Conway says that a true history of tobacco would be a history of English and American liberty.

‡Sir Sandford Fleming, K.C.M.G., gave many of the place-names along the Intercolonial Ry., named all the stations along the C. P. R. from East of Lake Superior to Winnipeg and is memorized in the place-name *Fleming* in Assiniboia.

With Sir William Van Horne* we would have to toil and struggle to provide the thousand place-names which had to be selected in connection with the naming of the stations of the C. P. Ry.

Plenty of cares, many stripes of pain, much vain wrestling with mosquitoes and cold and heat and privations of many kinds ; many Nansen-like experiences. But what a host of place-names we would have heard given by these Fathers of our Place-nomenclature.

We would have to follow in their devious wandering not alone the men who have been named, but also the Aboriginal Indians (the "naturals," Rev. Richard Hakluyt styled them) as their moccasined feet threaded the way through pathless forests, or their marvellous canoes and their matchless snow-shoes carried them along the streams and plains in their hunt for the sturgeon and the striped or white or blue or black bass and for the beaver, the buffalo, the moose or the caribou, and watch them as with wonderful insight they discover the great topographical features of the country and apply their names of music to them.

We must (however reluctantly) give upon this occasion, the idea of following the *thought-trails* suggested by the question "Who gave the place-names of Canada," and confine ourselves to the query: "Why was the name given?"

Isaac Taylor says "there are only about 300 German *grund-wörter* (root words) which, variously combined with the *bestimmungs-wörter* (designative words) constitute the 500,000 names which are found upon the map of Germany." No such clue have we to guide us through the labyrinth of our place nomenclature.

With us the first step is to ascertain whether the name is *enchorial* or is foreign—is local, indigenous, and with the flavour of the soil clinging to it ; or has come to us—as bananas and sardines and lemons and ostrich feathers come—from abroad; is, in fact, home-made, or is an imported article.

We have borrowed place-names, as well as money, from Great Britain—in the one case as in the other sometimes wisely and oftentimes foolishly. When we called a place *Sud-*

*Probably the place-name Father with the most numerous progeny of all the place-name Fathers Canada has ever had, though Dr. Robert Bell is a close second, if he does not take first place, having some 1,200 place names to his credit in the various regions he has explored.

bury we did a foolish thing seeing that it means *Southborough* and has been transplanted to Ontario and given a local habitation in the *North* country, contrary to all the regulations of Onomatology.* Mr. Sulte at the last meeting of the Society gave us samples of foolishly selected names, including, as he contends, the place-name of this city—Ottawa. Sir William Van Horne mentions *Bergen* as a singularly inappropriate place-name, being situated in the middle of a great plain of Manitoba, while the original Bergen is a seaport of Norway surrounded by high mountains. Every feature in the new place is the direct opposite of the old place—the one a mountain-begirt town, the other a plain-encompassed village; the one washed by the briny ocean—and if you want to know what that means read Robert Stevenson's tale of the "Merry Men"—the other without any water, fresh or salt, in it; the one a great entrepot for fish and fish products, the other scarcely seeing a fish from one year's end to another.

A few months ago the Royal Society of Canada affixed a tablet to the Province Building in Halifax to commemorate the connection of the Venetian merchant † with our country. The plan adopted in this case has been a favorite for many years; only the tablets have taken the form of place-names derived from surname, christian name and title of persons who in some way or other have been associated with Canada. Our borrowings in this line have been extensive. Very few Lords of Plantations, Secretaries of War (when these were also Secretaries for the Colonies) and Secretaries and Under-Secretaries for the Colonies (since 1854) have escaped the searching place-name hunter called upon to baptize the new township or county or village with a name that will sufficiently identify it. Of the 108 of these functionaries who have administered our affairs in the Imperial Government since 1768, I failed to find among our place-names, Castle-reagh, Hicks-Beach, Chamberlain, Ball, Pirbright, Meade, Pauncefote and Bramston—8 out of 108.

Since Jacques Cartier's time Canada has had 300 kings and queens, governors, governors-general and lieutenant-gov-

*Sometimes a great and important fact is embalmed in a place-name applied in the reverse of the Geographical position. Thus Sutherlandshire occupies a far North place on the map of the Island of Great Britain though it means the *South* land. The name was evidently given by persons living north of Great Britain; probably the Norwegian settlers of the Orkney Islands gave it.

†Cabot is appropriately memorized in Cabot Straits—the water passage between Newfoundland and Cape Breton.

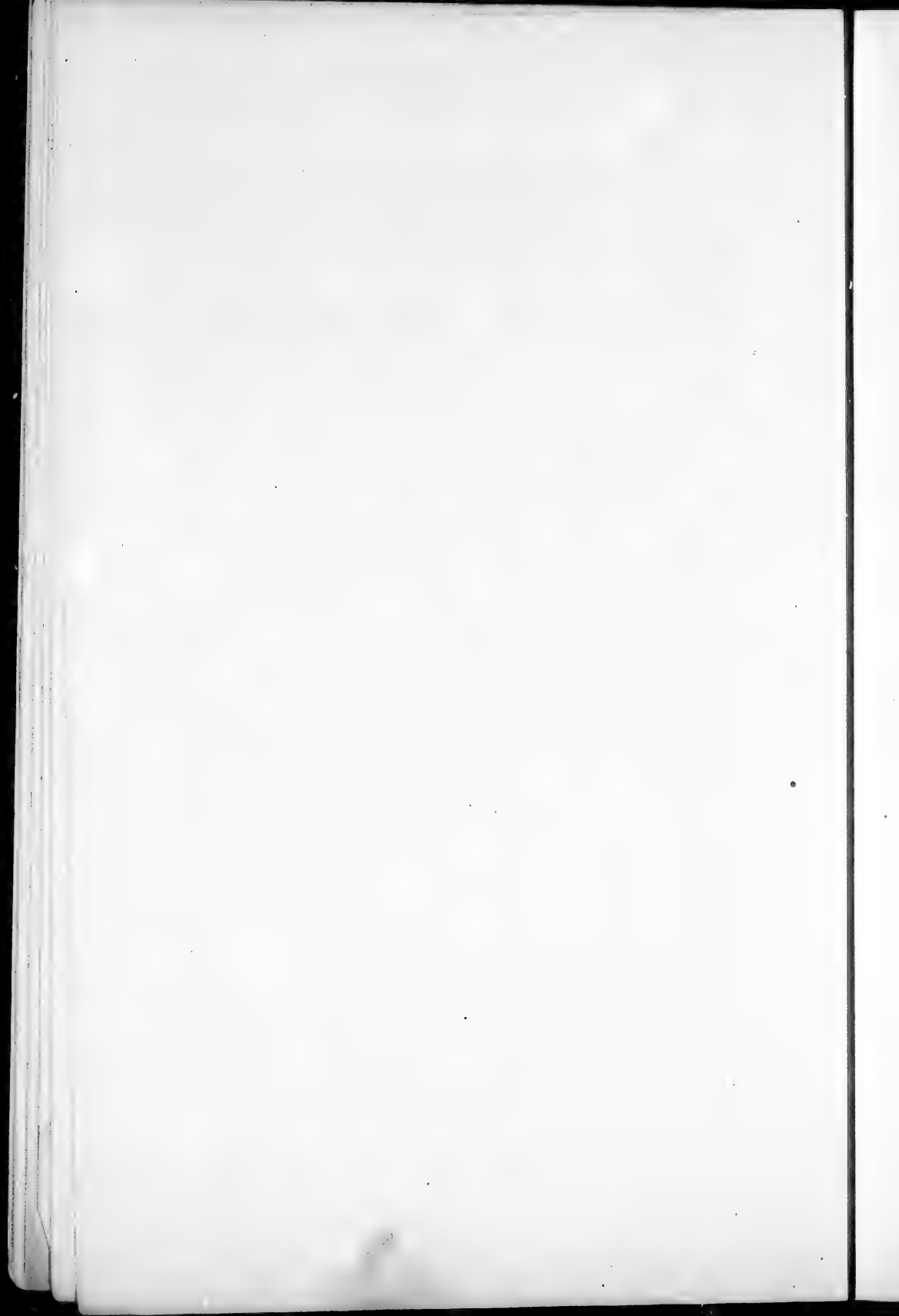
ernors, including my old friend Lt. Gov. McInnes of British Columbia and the latest appointed, Sir Oliver of Ontario. From them we have drawn the place-names of about 60 of our electoral districts and of several scores of our minor subdivisions.

Halifax, Osborne, Walpole, Pelham, Hardwicke, Granville, Newcastle, Rockingham, Carleton, Dundas, Shelburne, Grenville, Lansdowne, Liverpool, Eldon, Elgin, Canning, Goderich, Melville, Grey, Fox, Palmerston, Melbourne, Brougham, Wellington, Lyndhurst, Peel, Lytton, Stanley, Gladstone, Salisbury, Hartington, Russell, Bright, Clarendon, Beaconsfield, Spencer, Pembroke, Oxford, Bedford, Dunk, Sandwich, Mulgrave, Clarence, Somerset, Egmont, Aberdeen—these and several scores more are place-names of Canada given because those for whom they were named were Lords of the Admiralty, Colonial Secretaries, Premiers, Secretaries of War, Governors, or other high officials of the Empire. In connection with these names there is wide scope for historical reminiscence having a distinctively Canadian flavor.

In the same way and for the same reasons, the sovereigns of Great Britain and their sons and daughters are memorized in Canadian place-names. We have King's Counties and Queen's Counties and Georgetowns and Williamsburgs, and Louises and Albert Edwards and, (illustrative of the comparative youth, as well as of the abounding loyalty of the country,) we have 30 Victorias and Victoria Beaches, Peaks and Dales.

From French statesmen, governors, etc., we have borrowed our place-names of Jacques-Cartier, Roberval, Champlain, Montmagny, Coulonge, Lauzon, Frontenac, Vaudreuil, Longueuil, Beauharnois, LaTour, Chambly, Bonaventure, Montcalm, Marquette, Provencher, Laval, Iberville, Lévis, Lotbinière, Richelieu, Charlevoix, Montmorency, Nicolet, Soulanges, Verchères—the mention of which names calls up the long succession of able men justly held in sweet remembrance by our French brothers.

I do not know how better to illustrate this feature of our place-naming than to take British Columbia and New Brunswick as examples, presenting each in the form of a monograph.



BRITISH COLUMBIA

FROM THE PLACE-NAME POINT OF VIEW.

When Columbus set sail from a Spanish Port on the 3rd August, 1492, with three vessels and one hundred and twenty men he believed that he would sight land if he sailed long enough ; and that the land would be the Indies. The Old World path along which commerce plodded was that which crossed the land at the eastern end of the Mediterranean and thence by the Indian Ocean found its *eldorado* in the East. Hence, Venice, as the western terminal and distributing point, gained great wealth and aroused the jealousy of Spain and other nations of Western Europe. These sought the Indies by rounding the Cape of Good Hope. Columbus conceived the idea that as the earth was spheroidal in form he could abandon the shore-hugging way of the past and, boldly venturing on the wide, unknown ocean, sail on in a westerly course and reach the land of riches. When he found his way barred by an immense continent, he, Americus Vespucci and others sought along the coast for a passage that would take them to the western shores of the Pacific Ocean, on the east coast of which were the wealth and commodities of the Indies and Cathay, the gold and diamonds and precious stones that had given a magnificent sparkle to all the legends told to the wondering sons and daughters of Western Europe.

After them came other navigators who sought to pierce the continent, and in the hope of so doing ranged as Arctic explorers from the Straits of Belle Isle northward to Greenland, sometimes pushing the prows of their vessels into Hamilton Inlet and Ungava Bay ; at others forcing their way into Hudson's Great Bay and all along through the ice-girt islands that now compose the Island Province of the Dominion, the new-born District of Franklin ; or passing into the Gulf of St. Lawrence, pushed up the river, past Montreal, past Lachine, past Lakes Ontario, Huron, Superior, and on, still on, seeking the water courses that would carry their ships out into the Pacific and on their way to China and India ; or poking their vessels' noses into every stream and river and gulf from the Bay of Fundy to the Gulf of Patagonia, thinking that in each

great river or deep indentation they were to make the great discovery that would wrest from the Old World trade-path its pre-eminence and give the western people of Europe their share of the commerce that had enriched the Mediterranean countries. Finding no opening in all their search along the shores from Hudson Strait to Magellan Strait, they sailed round the southern end of the continent and turning northward painfully began anew their search for the passage of whose existence they were so positive that they called it, in advance of discovery, the Anian Strait.

Among the early navigators who searched the western coasts of the continent, one of the earliest was Juan de Fuca, a Greek sailor engaged by the Spanish Government and sent out by the Spanish Viceroy at Acapulco in Mexico. He asserted that he had found the desired passage in the Strait that separates Vancouver Island from the mainland and into which the Fraser River opens its wide mouth. This was in 1592 and we have a reminder of the Greek sailor's trip in the place-name, "Juan de Fuca Straits." Before this effort Admiral Drake—the great seaman who took so active a part in the revolution of the 16th Century by which the transition from galley warfare to warfare under sail, from the period of oars to the period of sails, was effected, and the further evolution of the British ship of war from its prototype, the Drakar or long ship of the Norsemen, to the "Terrible" type of steam-driven battle-ships, was made possible—in 1579 visited the Northern Pacific Ocean, having with him much plunder of Spanish vessels which he greatly desired to convey to English ports as swiftly and as safely as possible. He went north to the 49th parallel of latitude, found nothing that suggested a passage way through to the North Atlantic, turned the bows of his vessels southward and went to the "Island Kingdom" by way of stormy Cape Horn, from impalement on which his good seamanship saved him.*

In 1774 Juan Perez in command of an expedition of discovery sailed from San Blas to head off the Russians then making explorations in the North Pacific Ocean. His instructions were to make land as far north as the 60th degree of latitude and take possession in the name of the King of Spain. He visited Queen Charlotte Islands and Nootka Sound which he named *San Lorenzo*, a name which took no hold but soon

*Cape Horn was discovered and named by Schouten in 1616 after his birth place the town of Horn in the Netherlands.

disappeared, being properly swallowed up by the original Indian name. In the next year Perez again made his appearance on the coast and took possession of the northwest coast as far as Alaska, not finding, however, any passage; in fact shrouding whatever discoveries he made in the obscurity of deliberate concealment. His connection with our country is remembered in the place-name *Juan Perez Sound* in Queen Charlotte Islands.*

England now came to the front in the practical way that has made her so successful. She offered a reward of £20,000 to the discoverer of a passage north of the 52nd parallel. In March, 1778, Capt. Cook left the Sandwich Islands on his homeward trip after his voyage of circumnavigation and took the northern course, sighted Cape Flattery and concluded his narrative by writing when in latitude $69^{\circ} 32'$; "We are now upwards of 520 leagues to the westward of any part of Baffin's or Hudson's Bay and whatever passage there may be, it, or at least part of it, must be to the north of latitude 72° ". Beyond naming the places he visited and making a small collection of furs he did little. That little, however, was of great importance. It changed the current of mercantile thought. If there was no passage, there were furs. There was business to be done and if the passage should be found well and good. It ceased to be the primary object. In consequence, there were the fur-trading explorations of Hanna, of Strange, of Portlock and Dixon, all of 1786; and Barclay's expedition of 1787, accompanying which was Mrs. Barclay, probably the first European woman to visit that part of the North Pacific Coast. Hanna named *Sea Otter Sound* and *Fitzhugh Sound*. To Strange we are indebted for *Cape Scott*, named after one of the Bombay merchants who fitted out his vessels. Dixon's memory is perpetuated in *Dixon Straits* and it was he who named *Queen Charlotte Islands*. Barclay is remembered in *Barclay Sound*.

Other expeditions were that of Meares in 1787-89 whose shipbuilding operations resulted in a quarrel between Spain and Great Britain only settled by a treaty signed at Madrid in 1794; the Kendrick and Grey Expedition of 1788, the ships in this instance flying the United States flag; (they named the Columbian River after one of their vessels and thus indirectly gave us the place-name of the Pacific province, British Col-

*Anyone who wishes to study the Queen Charlotte Islands from the place-name point of view cannot do better than consult Dr. George Dawson's monograph in the Geological Survey Report of 1878-79,

umbia); the Martinez and Haro expedition, 1789; (they named Haro Strait for us); the Eliza expedition, 1790-95. commemorated in the place-name Port Eliza; and the Vancouver expedition, 1791-95 the chief objects of which were to make a vigorous search for the elusive Anian Strait, to find out what settlements had been made by other countries and to take possession of some English property in Nootka Sound.

In the meantime the Hudson's Bay Company, since 1670, had been extending their operations from the great bay from which they take their name, westward, till in 1782-3, the Northwest Company entered the field as determined rivals of the older company. One of the officers of this latter company, Alexander Mackenzie, wears double laurels, as the first discoverer of the Mackenzie River and its Arctic Ocean outlet, and as the first white man who went through the Rockies to the Pacific Ocean.

Subsequently the great lumber companies explored the bays and sounds and inlets in search of easily accessible forest trees, giving their names to many lakes just as in the Ottawa valley the men of the lumber-camps have given the names of many of their "bosses"* to the lake-feeders of the river.

Then came the gold discoveries, and then followed the Canadian Pacific Railway.

From all these sailors and shoremen, explorers and surveyors and lumbermen have come the place-names of British Columbia, many of them being Indian names or adoptions from the Haidahs, the Nootkas and the Shuswaps, the three great families of the Columbian group of aborigines. The marks of them all are upon the shores, the mountains, the islands, and the various forms of water—the rivers, inlets, lakes, gulfs, sounds, canals and arms.

As a name-father Capt. Cook is responsible for a number of place-names along the north-west coast of North America. He gave Cape Flattery its name on 22nd March, 1778, because from the lay of the land, "there appeared to be a small opening which flattered us with the hopes of finding an harbour." As in this instance Hope told not only a flattering, but what in the honest sea-captain's view was the same, an untruthful tale, he called the promontory Cape Flattery.

*The evolution of the word "boss" is interesting. It was originally *base*—the man at the base; the man upon whom the enterprise rests. We say "It rests with him to make it a success." The Early Dutch on this continent used the word *Baas*, and the English, sounding *de* "boss", soon came to spell it so.

He missed Juan de Fuca Straits by being blown to the westward. His next landfall was a place called by him King George's Sound, but which he, later on, suggested should bear the native name of Nootka. There he remained long enough to satisfy himself that the natives were a very superior race, "for," said he, "I must observe that I have nowhere in my several voyages met with any uncivilized nation or tribe who had such notions of their having a right to the exclusive property of anything that their country produces as the inhabitants of this Sound"—a characteristic of us Canadians to this day, whether at the British Columbian or the Nova Scotian end, with all that is between included. Cook sailed for the mainland where he sighted, on the 2nd May, Mount Edgecombe, well within the territory now claimed by the United States as Alaska. He journeyed along till the 26th. October giving place-names right and left—none of them however in Canadian territory—the few he gave along the Nootka Sound territory not surviving; "Nootka" has overwhelmed Cook's place-name of King George's Sound; "Point Breakers" has given way to "Point Maquilla," so named in honor of a native chieftain with whom Meares had dealings in 1786; while "Woody Point" has been re-baptised "Boulder Point" the woods having disappeared and the boulders having become the prominent feature.

As is quite natural, Vancouver is the greatest name-father of the British Columbian coast. He was one of the early comers. He found an almost virgin soil in which to plant his place-names with every expectation of their taking root. He was engaged in a task that led him, in prosecuting it, to examine the coast very carefully. He was therefore all the time searching the nooks and crannies of the coast.

On the 8th March, 1791, Capt. George Vancouver received instructions, signed by Chatham, Hopkins, Hood and J. T. Townsend, to proceed to the Sandwich Islands, winter there and go in the Spring to the North West Coast of North America to obtain accurate information as to other nations who might have settled there and especially to obtain information for His Majesty's use in respect to the "water communications, which may tend to facilitate an intercourse, for the purpose of commerce, between the North West Coast and the country upon the opposite side of the continent inhabited by

the king's subjects." In 1791 His Majesty's subjects thus referred to were preparing to separate, Upper from Lower Canada, and to hold their first Legislative Assemblies. They were not troubling themselves very much about the passage to China or about a way across the continent by means of water-stretches. They had to hew down the forest, hunt up sweethearts, prepare homes for them and work out the problem of life under many discouragements. But no doubt in many a home in the back-woods as well as in such centres of population as Montreal, (population 20,000,) Quebec and Halifax there were those who waited eagerly for news of the Vancouver expedition round the world. However that may be, Capt. Vancouver sailed out of Falmouth, England, on the 1st. April, 1791, in the "Discovery" accompanied by Lieut. Broughton in the "Chatham." He decided to go by way of the Cape of Good Hope and see what Capetown, then a Dutch Colony, was like and whether it was worth annexing to Great Britain (accomplished four years afterwards.) From the Cape he stretched across the wide sheet of ocean and reached Cape Chatham on 27th September, remaining on the Australian Coast to examine George Third's Sound. Thence they sailed to Van Dieman Land and New Zealand, leaving on the 22nd. November for the Society Islands where they remained till the approach of March gave promise of a kindly reception in the North West Coast. This coast was sighted on 18th. April 1792 after a month's run. On the 29th. April Vancouver reached Cape Flattery naming it "Claffet" thinking for the moment that was the name Cook had given it, and passed up the Straits of Fuca coming to anchor in a small bay now known as Neah's Bay, just round the corner from Cape Flattery.

His first place-name was not an attempt to supplant Captain Cook, and some time after, when he learned that "Flattery" was Cook's name for the promontory, he dropped his own and took Cook's place-name. The next day the sharp eyes of his third Lieutenant (Baker) saw a mountain towering high and covered with snow, and Vancouver at once named it "Mount Baker." Where the vessels anchored for the night the lay of the land reminded Vancouver of the look of Dungeness in the British Channel and accordingly he named the anchorage "New Dungeness."

The next day the yawl, the launch and the cutter started off with their occupants to explore the shores. They discovered

a large bay protected by an island from the northern winds, and Vancouver gave the bay the name of his vessel, "Discovery Bay," and called the island "Protection Island;" and then all returned to the ships well pleased with their day's work. The next day he made a circuit of a larger bay and called it "Port Townsend," in honor of one of the signers of his letter of instructions.

Day after day they pursued their task of discovering, and within a month had examined the huge "pocket" with its islets, its bays, its basins and had given to the 1,800 miles of coast it included, the general name of "Puget Sound" after Vancouver's second Lieutenant, Peter Puget. By June he was ready to proceed northward and to enter the great internal sea, of which on June 4th, in honor of the King's birthday, he took formal possession and named it, with bumpers, the "Gulf of Georgia." Thus far he had named Hood's Canal after Rt. Hon. Lord Hood, another signer of his letter of instructions; Port Orchard, after one of his men; Vashon Island, after "my friend Capt. Vashon of the navy;" Restoration Point, because the day they saw it was the day commemorative of "that memorable event, the restoration of Monarchy and of King Charles II as its representative;" and Penn Cove "in honor of a particular friend." Then during July and till August 25th, he was busy exploring and naming the hosts of islands, passages, inlets, &c., between Grey's Point and Cape Scott, the north west point of Vancouver Island. A glance at a good map will show that the 64 days were busy days. At Point Grey (named for Capt. Grey of the U. S. vessel "Columbia") he found two Spanish vessels engaged in surveying the straits, for Spain had her eye upon the region. Vancouver's courtesy was equal to theirs, and he called *Galiano* and *Valdez* Islands after the Commanders of these two vessels. Then he went on northward, ever seeking to find some inlet that would connect with the great inland sea, which in turn would bring the Atlantic Coast of North America within close distance to the Pacific and, thus supply the opportunity to establish that north west passage believed so firmly by many to exist. He explored and named (after Sir Harry Burrard of the Royal Navy) Burrard Inlet, upon a magnificent headland of which the fine city of Vancouver is built, a memorial, on the mainland, of the great sea captain. He named *Atkinson Point* after a "particular friend;" *Anvil Island* "because of its shape;" *Point Upwood* "for an early friend;" *Howe Sound*, for Admiral Earl Howe; *Jervis Inlet*,

for Admiral Sir John Jervis; *Scotch Fir Point*, because of the first firs they had seen, reminding them, in the midst of a flora very different to that of their Island home, of Scotland; Harwood and Savary Islands for "old friends;" Johnstone Straits and Broughton Straits and Island and Mudge Cape and Hanson Island and Baker Passage to signalize his confidence in his officers, while the "middies" were not forgotten, as Hardwick Island and Points Duff and Gordon and other place-names prove. Nelson Island he named after "Captain Nelson of the Navy"—a seaman whose fame was within a few years to start ringing down the centuries. Thurlow Island and Chancellor Passage commemorate the great Chancellor of 1783, while Loughborough Inlet recalls Thurlow's alternating Chancellor, Alexander Wedderburn, Lord Loughborough.

Vancouver sighted the coast on the 18th April and rounded the northern point of Vancouver Island on the 27th August, and between these dates had given to more than a hundred places names which most of them retain to this day, a few having been changed after the United States, by the Oregon Treaty, secured a portion of the coast explored by Vancouver.

On his second voyage Vancouver sighted the coast of Vancouver Island on the 18th May, 1793, and after a few days set out to continue the survey of the mainland coast and returned to Nootka on Sept. 2nd, a period of three and a half months, during which he gave about 200 place-names and confirmed a dozen or more that had been given by previous explorers. He appears to have proceeded upon much the same plan as in his previous examination of the grandest archipelago the world possesses, that between the mainland of British Columbia and Oregon and the Island of Vancouver. Cape Caution, he so named as a warning to all future navigators to take special care when in its vicinity. Gardner Canal he named after Vice Admiral Gardner, who was in command of the station at Jamaica when Vancouver was there and who reported favorably of him, mentioning him to Lord Chatham and the Admiralty. Behm Canal after Major Behm "in recollection of the weighty obligations conferred by him on the officers and men of the *Resolution* and *Discovery* while ~~while~~ at Kamtchatka in 1779"; New Eddystone, because the rock looked like that on which the Eddystone light is perched; Escape Point and Traitor Cove, because the treacherous

natives attacked him in the last and because he and his men effected their escape from the first named. The great Edmund Burke, the centenary of whose death was observed last month (Nov. 1897) whose claim to renown is that he was a leading actor in the four high tragedies of his time—the revolt of America, the insurrection in Ireland, the misgovernment of India and the revolution in France—Burke has his tablet in our place-name of Burke Canal given by Vancouver; and this is so far as I can discover the only one assigned to him in Canada. From the part he took as advocate and agent of the 13 American colonies, Burke was not a favorite with the United Empire Loyalists who were giving place-names in Canada and the Eastern Provinces during the period of his greatest activity.

Point Higgins he named after His Excellency Senr. Higgins de Vallenar, President of Chili, in "commemoration of kindness" shown him. Point Wales (west point of Observation Island) after, he writes, "my much esteemed friend, Mr. Wales, of Christ's Hospital, to whose kind instruction in the early part of my life I am indebted for that information which has enabled me to traverse and delineate these lonely regions." While the early Loyalists in Prince Edward County on the northern shores of Lake Ontario were doing honor to King George III by using the christian names of his fifteen children for place-names, Vancouver, animated by the same thought was naming in honor of his King such places as Point Sophia, Point Augusta, Point Frederick, Point Amelia, Point Adolphus, Point Mary and Cape Edward. Port Fidalgo was named by Vancouver after Senr. Fidalgo who had visited the place in 1790 and bestowed several place-names in remembrance of his friends, but had omitted to use his own name. Vancouver thought such modesty should have its reward, and with his usual broad minded generosity rescued Fidalgo from oblivion by giving the port his name. Port Countess, one might readily suppose was named after some lady of that rank who had done a kindness to the ever-grateful sailor. It was really named in honor of Capt. Countess "of the Navy," as Vancouver always refers to it, as if there were no other navy worthy his thought. Cape Hamond, far up on the North west coast of this continent, Vancouver named after Sir Andrew Snape Hamond, some time Governor of Nova Scotia and landed proprietor of New Brunswick, who thus has the honor of having his name attached to places and rivers in the far West Pacific and in the Atlantic Provinces. In Point Couverain, Vancou-

ver perpetuated the "name of the seat of my ancestors." In Point Hunter he showed his regard for "my very particular friend and physician," Dr. Hunter. In Cape Henry and Englefield Bay he commemorated his "regard for my much esteemed friend, Sir Henry Englefield." Cape Decision he so named because he there decided that this cape formed the north west continental point, as Cape Flattery formed the south west point of the archipelago. On Sept. 5th. 1793, the great name-father of the coast of North West America reached Nootka and sailed off to the Sandwich Islands there to winter. On April 14th. 1794 he returned to finish his survey and signalized his return by naming Point Woronzow in honour of the Russian Ambassador at the British Court. Lynn Canal he named after "the place of my nativity, Lynn in Norfolk." About the 53rd. degree of north latitude one can find on a good map Mussel Canal, Carter Bay, and Poison Cove. These names commemorate one of the few deaths that occurred during Vancouver's lengthy absence from England. One fine June morning Mr. Barrie of Vancouver's vessel, the "Discovery," went with three seamen in a boat to explore an inlet. When they reached a cove they found and ate some shell-fish. They were soon attacked with numbness in their faces and extremities; then their whole bodies became numb. Mr. Barrie, alarmed at the symptoms, recommended them to "pull for dear life," as violent exercise would induce perspiration. The three sailors bent to their oars and, like the sturdy British seamen they were, they "pulled for the shore." On landing, one of them, Carter by name, rose to get out of the boat, but sank down. He was tenderly cared for by the officer and his two mates who had to a considerable degree recovered, but he grew worse and died at mid-day on the pebble shore, ministered to, to the end, by his staggering comrades, weak and faint but dauntless in their dire extremity. Vancouver mourned the loss of a "true man and a good sailor," and gave the three names in commemoration of the event. Wooden Rock, off Cape Ommancy, is a sailor's monument to a brother sailor, Wooden, who there fell overboard and was drowned in the swirling tide. In his log Vancouver wrote he was "a good man and an active sailor." Point Conclusion indicates that the task was done and that the great seaman may now turn the bows of his vessels homeward. On his way out he names Cape Addington after the "Speaker of the House of Commons" and reached Nootka on September 2nd; leaves on 16th October 1794 and arrives in the Thames 20th October, 1795, to

find that without any solicitation on his part he has been gazetted a Post Captain.

In B. Columbia the C. P. Railway people have given us *Field* after D. D. Field of the U. S. family of Fields to which Cyrus of Atlantic Cable fame belonged; Mount MacDonald, after Sir John of glorious memory; Mount Agnes, after our one Baroness, Agnes of Earnescliffe; Revelstoke, after Lord Revelstoke, one of the Barings; Mount Stephen, to commemorate George Stephen, who has taken it as his title; Mount Sir Donald, to keep in remembrance for future generations the Donald Smith whose unwavering faith in the *rail* passage—the real Anian passage—never faltered even when the fortunes of the C. P. R. were at their lowest point.

They or others have given us Mount Cartier, Mount Tilley, Mount Begbee—and have incidentally presented us with a very good idea, viz., the appropriation of our mounts as memorials of the Fathers of Confederation. We have enough to go round and leave lots for the premiers of Canada, for our great scientists, historians and poets.

NEW BRUNSWICK

FROM A PLACE-NAME POINT OF VIEW.

In 1757 the township of Cumberland was formed and named after Fort Cumberland, the name given by Col. Moncton to the French Fort Beausejour after its surrender in 1755. It was a strip of land fourteen miles wide and extending from Cumberland Basin to Bay Verte—the whole distance across the isthmus of Chignecto which connects Nova Scotia with New Brunswick. In 1759 the growth of population in Nova Scotia to the south and to the north of the isthmus led the Nova Scotian Executive Council to create a new county embracing all the population north of Kings County on the Basin of Minas. The new county taking, its name from the fort and settlement around it, was called Cumberland, and embraced all the present Province of New Brunswick,

In 1765 the Nova Scotian Council divided the county of Cumberland, leaving the north shore as far as Bay Chaleur to its former local connection and constituting the River St. John region and all west of it another county to which was given the name of Sunbury. The origin of the name is lost. The townships created in Sunbury at that date were Burton, Conway, Francfort, Gagetown, Mangersville, and New Town.

Burton was named after Brigadier-General Ralph Burton who had a good deal to do with Quebec after Wolfe had conquered on the Plains of Abraham, as our good friend Dr. Brymner has shown. *Conway* after Henry S. Conway, he and the Duke of Grafton being Secretaries of State in the Rockingham Administration formed in 1765; *Francfort*, probably so named from the French fort; *Gagetown* after General Thomas Gage, who was the principal land-owner there. *Mangersville* after Joshua Mauger, whose name is first on the list of grantees of land in that township. *New Town* is, of course, descriptive.

There are, then, of the men influential enough to have their names given to their respective townships—Burton, Conway, Gage and Mauger. Of these four, Mauger would be the most influential. He was wealthy, had a distillery in Halifax, where Mauger's Beach still perpetuates his memory, and was engaged in large financial transactions with the Government. Thus in the Dominion Archivist's report for 1894, mention is made of the fact that the Lords of Trade writing to Acting-Governor Belcher in 1763 inform him that, when money is required, he is to apply to Mauger or his agent in Halifax, drawing on the Treasury in his favor. In 1764 Mauger was wrothy with the Lords of Trade and all the officials, and declared that, if he "does not get back the money, he will petition Parliament," "one good effect of which," he says, "if there is no other, will be to warn people against advancing money on account of Government." His complaint appears to have secured the support of Chief Justice Belcher; for in February, 1765, that functionary states Mauger's case to the Lords of Trade. In the same year (Oct. 28th) the Governor (Wilmot) advises the Lords of Trade that he has drawn on them in favor of Mauger for £1,504. Evidently Mauger had influence and had a great interest in the new county formed on the banks of the St. John River. What more natural than that he should have suggested to Montagu Wilmot that Sunbury would be a good place-name, taking it from the village of Sunbury, near London?

Whatever the origin of this early county place-name, it is certain that population increased and with it the desire to have a larger Colonial establishment. In 1754 New Brunswick was erected into a separate province and Thomas Carleton was appointed its first Governor. Thousands of United Empire Loyalists had found their way to the Maritime Provinces and thousands more began the great work of colonizing the littoral of the St. Lawrence from Lake St. Francis to Lake Ontario; the shores of Lake Ontario as far as the Bay of Quinte; the neighborhood of Niagara and part of the shores of the Detroit River. They were finding homes in the ports of Shelburne, Halifax, Guysboro. They were penetrating into the valleys of the Annapolis and the Cornwallis and the Avon. They were pouring into the St. John River region, in great numbers. Organized government must go with them. It was in those days felt to be a difficult, if not an impossible, task to manage from Halifax the affairs of the people in such distant regions as Burton and Gagetown. So Thomas Carleton was sent to do the work.

No doubt he and his Council studied the subject carefully. The first work they had to do was to divide the province into counties. They found on the map the counties of Cumberland and Sunbury—too large and unwieldy for purposes of home rule. Accordingly they began to subdivide and to name the subdivisions. Cumberland belonged about equally to both provinces. But the newer yielded gracefully and abandoned Cumberland as a place-name to Nova Scotia. They did the next best thing. Looking on the map of England—the motherland for whom so many had sacrificed everything, home and ease and wealth and friends—they saw that Cumberland was adjoined by Westmoreland and Northumberland. What better names than these could be suggested? Surely none. So these two were adopted. The monarchic principle found expression in the place-names of Kings County and Queens, lying side by side. In St. John they preserved in its English form the old name given by De Monts in 1604. In Charlotte County (after Queen Charlotte) there is an exhibition of that strong personal love for the sovereign which characterized the men and women of that period. Sunbury, shorn of its giant dimensions, was retained as the sole memorial of the province's former connection with the sister province of Nova Scotia.

The new names and boundaries of the counties were authorized by Royal letters patent in May, 1785.

During the next year, 1786, the Governor and his Council appear to have addressed themselves to the task of subdividing the eight counties they had created.

Following the division into two counties made in 1765, several townships had been named by the Nova Scotian executive and in addition to those already mentioned, there were Hopewell, Hillsborough, Moncton, Campobello (1770) Sackville (1772) and Prince William (1783), all, except Campobello and Prince William, in the Cumberland division.

These had all been designated townships in accordance with the plan adopted by Nova Scotia.

But the Governor and Council of New Brunswick objected to the word "township." Possibly they feared it as too suggestive of the New England *Town* which had proved the forcing house of revolt, the hotbed of rebellion. Possibly, too, many of them had come from Maryland and Virginia, and were thus familiar with the word *Parish*; or probably it sounded more English to men who shrank from having around them any reminder of the cruel harshness meted out to them by the successful rebels. Whatever the reason, they decided upon the word *Parish*, instead of township, to represent the subdivisions of the county. They changed Amesburg into Kingston. Francfort was merged into Queensburg; Corway was divided between Lancaster and Westfield; Newton became St. Marys—and the twelve of the period prior to 1784 became 26, and these in the years intervening became, by 1891, 162 parishes and wards, forming the units adopted in the Census work, of which 66 per cent. or two-thirds are names of persons or places of English origin.

I have not time to give in detail the place-names of New Brunswick with their meanings. The name of the Province was selected in honor of the reigning family the word *new* being given in accordance with the precedent established when New France, New England, New Netherlands, New Sweden and New Scotland (Nova Scotia) were adopted.*

*Anyone who wishes to study more minutely the place-names of New Brunswick is referred to a paper by Prof. Ganong in the Canadian Royal Society's Proceedings for 1896. Ganong divides the place-naming period of New Brunswick into (1) The Indian period; (2) the period of exploration, 1000-1604; (3) the French period; (4) the New England period, 1760-1783; (5) the Loyalist period, 1783-1790, and (6) the post-Loyalist period, 1790-1896. He says New Brunswick is rich in Indian place names and that, with three or four exceptions, the names of the rivers, lakes and harbors are of Indian origin.

OTHER ILLUSTRATIONS.

Connected with the place-names tender sympathy sometimes crops out. For instance Fort Connolly was named after James Connolly, whose daughter Nellie, a beautiful maiden of sweet sixteen, young Douglas (afterwards Sir James Douglas and Governor of Vancouver Island) along with his other duties, found time to woo and win as he sojourned, in the employ of the Hudson's Bay Co. in the region of Bear Lake at the head of ~~head~~ of the branches of the Skeena River on the far off Arctic slope of our vast country. No doubt after honoring the father, Douglas found his path to the lady's heart all the easier.

Frequently a story of hardship conquered by love and patience is embalmed in the place-name. The other day I read of Joan Murray Ritchie who had recently died. She was born in the little village of Knock in Dumfriesshire, Scotland, in 1809. Her father dying when she was a child she became a domestic servant with a family in Annan. When 24 years of age she married William Ritchie of Greystones. In 1841, with three children to care for, the couple came to Canada. Ritchie hired himself to a Scotchman of Vaughan for \$100 a year with a house and pasture for a cow. After ten years he saved enough to buy a farm in the township of Flos, (name given from Gov. Colborne's wife's poodle dog), having himself during those years become an expert backwoodsman, while his wife had learned all that was required of a farmer's wife in those days. She knew how to make maple-sugar, to spin yarn and make homespun. She understood the art of the dyer and could take the wool from the sheep's back and put it through all the processes needed to transform it into a suit of clothes, to shield her *mon's* back and sides and front from the blasts of a Canadian winter. In 1851 the family moved to their new home in the forest of Flos and built them a log cabin on the banks of the Wye, (a transplanted Welch word signifying *water*, and therefore often used for rivers). In the first year the husband and father cleared a patch of ground for wheat and potatoes and then went away to earn enough money to carry the family over the winter, leaving the wife to take care of the lonely forest home. Year after year they worked and planned to surround themselves with comforts, and extended a helping hand to other settlers, till a village sprung up of which Ritchie was appointed Postmaster and to which he gave the name *Elmvale*, in honor of his

noble-hearted wife whose birth-place among the rugged Scotch hills was called *Elmvale*. Mrs. Ritchie survived her loving husband 30 years and had the happiness of seeing her children married and settled around her, the whole numbering 115, viz., 4 daughters, 3 sons, 72 grandchildren, 35 great grandchildren and one great great great grandchild.

Gratitude is embalmed in some place-names. Here is one example, "to our purpose quite."

In the forties there lived in Louisiana a man named Rev. William King who married a planter's daughter. On her father's death she inherited 15 slaves. These, on her death, Mr. King liberated and, after selling his Louisiana plantation, carried them to Canada in 1848. He found in Western Canada (now Western Ontario) a large number of fugitive slaves, very ignorant and living in great poverty. In 1850 he presented their cases to the Presbyterian Synod, then in session in Toronto, succeeded in enlisting the sympathies of its members, as well as those of other denominations, and secured the co-operation of Canadian anti-slavery societies. As a practical method of aiding the slaves a company was incorporated in June, 1850, called the Elgin Association. A prospectus was issued for the "social and religious improvement of the colored people of Canada" as the Association announced its object. The public was asked to take stock to the amount of \$20,000. With the money 9,000 acres of land were purchased from the Government at an average cost of \$1.75 per acre. This tract was divided into lots of 50 acres for which the colored settler paid \$2.50 per acre in ten annual instalments with interest. Mr. King formed the nucleus of the settlement by giving his 15 freed negroes their land in 1850. While the Fugitive Slave Law was in operation in the United States many thousands of slaves found their way by the "underground railway" into Canada, and in 1853, 100 families had settled in the King tract, while many more occupied improved farms in the neighborhood. They were very helpful to each other, and most of the farms were cleared and homes built by means of "chopping bees," those warm-hearted, neighborly institutions of early Canadian times. The settlers also found employment on the farms of their white neighbors and sold railway ties at seven cents each to the Canada Southern Railway, then under construction.

As they advanced in prosperity a village sprung up in the settlement being the railway station of *Buxton*, so named by the colored people in honor of Sir Fowell Buxton, the dis-

tinguished philanthropist whose life-long devotion to the cause of the slave in the colonies of Great Britain resulted in the Imperial Statute of 1833, by which the last vestige of slavery was removed from Canadian soil. The village of "Buxton" memorizes to this day, and let us hope for all time, the great event of the legal abolition of slavery in the British Colonies, and the gratitude of the fugitive slaves who found an asylum in free Canada from the wrongs and sorrows of the land of their birth.

On the 27th May, 1753, there sailed out of Halifax Harbour a fleet of fourteen transports carrying 1,453 persons, mostly Germans, with a few French-speaking Protestants from Switzerland and France, under charge of 92 regular troops and 66 rangers. Their destination was Merleguesh. Landing safely they began to build a town which they protected, on the land side from Indians, by palisades and block-houses, and on the water side from pirates, by a battery called Fort Bowscawen. With true German promptitude they began at once to obey the primal command "increase and multiply" for Jane Margaret Bailey gave birth to a child on the first night after the landing. From this band has largely sprung the 37,000 souls ascertained by the Census of 1891 to be the population of the fine County of Lunenburg—as the town and county were christened for the first settlers a fortnight before they left Halifax, in memory of Lüneburg, in Hanover, Prussia. One of their first acts after landing was to call the stream on the banks of which they stepped from the boats, *Rous's Brook* in honor of Capt. Rous under whose safe conduct they had come to their future home. Thus Capt. Rous is remembered in our place-names, and that his memory is worthy of perpetuation is plain from the fact that he was in command of the *Sutherland*, 50 guns, when Wolfe was before Quebec, and that it was from the deck of this ship that Wolfe issued his last orders before he climbed the steep slope leading to the Plains of Abraham and to fame.

In the year 1783 the British legion, which had served with distinguished reputation in the war between Great Britain and some of her American Colonies under Col. Tarleton, came to Nova Scotia and began a settlement at Port Mouton, and laid out the boundaries of a town to which they gave the name *Guysboro*. They soon found that the soil was stony

and barren, and, although they had built several dwelling houses, they determined to abandon the place. While they were making preparations for their departure a fire destroyed everything they had. A King's ship was at once despatched from Halifax with provisions, or they would have suffered from hunger and exposure. Most of them gladly seized the opportunity and removed to Chedabucto Bay at the eastern end of the Province, where they joined a number of persons, belonging to the civil department of the army and navy, who left New York when the British forces evacuated it; and as they had nothing else to take they took the name and gave it to the present Guysboro, leaving Port Mouton to rejoice in its original French name given it 180 years before by De Monts in 1604, because one of his few and precious sheep there jumped overboard and was lost. The new name of Guysboro was manufactured from the Christian name of Sir Guy Carleton, to do honor to the man to whom the British Authorities had committed the task of transporting from New York the thirty or thirty-five thousand Loyalists, Hessian soldiers and others, servants and slaves, who, on the conclusion of the war between Great Britain and her revolted colonies, resolved to cast in their lot with the mother land, and whose experience of Sir Guy's considerate mind and feeling heart had aroused in them the strongest regard for him.

These somewhat lengthy statements serve to show to what extent, and for what reasons, our place-names have been imported: some from the political relations that exist or have existed between the two mother countries and ourselves; others from sentimental causes that do credit to the warm hearts of the Canadian people, proving:—

“How far the gulf stream of our youth may flow
Into the Arctic regions of our lives.”

Time would fail to tell of the authors, poets (Tennyson, &c.) heroes of the mother-land* commemorated in our place-names.

*Oliver W. Holmes referring to the Mother Isle finely says:—

“One half her earth has walked the rest,
In poets, heroes, orators, sages.”

SECOND DIVISION.

Passing to the other great division of place-names, technically the *enchorial*, they are of Indian and Canadian origin—using the word *Canadian* to include Nova Scotians, New Brunswickers, and all others, as well as the inhabitants of Old Canada.

They include (1) names derived from physical characteristics; (2) names derived from individuals of local fame.

The first class includes the Indian names of the country. These have the full, unadulterated flavour of the soil about them. They are aboriginal in their bouquet. Long before the coming of the White Man—long before De Monts sailed from Port Royal (now Annapolis) along the coast to Florida without finding a trace of the White Man—the Indian tribes had mapped out this continent and divided it among themselves. With their keen eyes and practical habits they applied place-names which embalm physical characteristics whose aptness, we, of these times, have no difficulty in recognizing. Most of the orographic place-names of to-day are of their coining. Thus, Massachusetts—"the great blue hill."

Many of the rivers owe their names to the Indians:—Mississippi, Saskatchewan, Assiniboine. Many of the portages over which the canoes were carried from one water-stretch to another still bear Indian names.

In the case of the imported place-names, those formed of material from outside, I used the Provinces of British Columbia and New Brunswick as repositories from which to draw illustrations. In the case of the Indians the other provinces may be drawn upon.

Manitoba is an Indian word meaning *Strait of the Spirit*, the Indian legend being that in the narrower portions of Lake Manitoba strange noises were heard by the Indians. These noises, not accounted for by any experience of the Indians, were considered supernatural, and, therefore, caused by the Manitou—the Great Spirit. Pere Lacombe says the word should be *Manitowapan*, *supernatural or god-like*—the Indian dwellers on the shores of Lake Manitoba deeming it to possess supernatural qualities; whether in the way of noisemaking or in the line of healing or what else, not specified.

Assiniboia, perpetuates the Assiniboins—a tribe of Indians whose name is thought by some to mean Stone boilers and

by others Dwellers in a rocky region—both epithets being true to fact.

Winnipeg comes, after various modes of spelling, from two Cree words—*Winne* "cloudy" or murky, and *Napee*, "water;" the Crees calling the Lake, Winnipeg—meaning water tinged during the summer months with a green color owing to the presence of a vegetable growth which abounds in parts of the lake. "It is a minute, needle-shaped organism about half an inch in length, sometimes detached and sometimes in clusters, and at times the water is almost as thick as pea-soup."

Pembina: *nipa-mina*, a Cree word for a red berry which grows in great abundance along banks of rivers.

Shubenacadie; a place for ground nuts.

Pictou; *Pict* means explosion of gas. Whenever in Micmac, the noun ends in the sound "kt," the regular form of the case locative is the addition of "*ook*." *Pictook* is equal to *Pictou*. Peter Toney, an educated Micmac, says there was once on a time a big fire which burned the tents of a large encampment, and always after the Indians referred to it as *Muskeak Bucto* (big fire) corrupted by the Whites into *Pictou*. Mr. Howe said *Pictou* means anything like a jar or bottle which has a narrow mouth and widens afterwards. *Pictou Harbour* does this; hence the name. It seems more than probable, from the coal found there and from the coal fires that have been burning in the region suggesting the likelihood of fires caused by lightning, that the root word means fire or some manifestation of fire.

Chebogue, N.S., from *Itebogue*, spring water

Merigomish, N.S., from Micmac, *Mallegomichtk*—"hard wood grove."

In Nova Scotia and also in other provinces the Indian names were in some cases translated into the French by the French when they gained supremacy, and sometimes into English when in turn the English came to rule.

Apohech-Kumoochwakadi, "place of Black Duck," was translated by the French and called *Riviere des Canards*. The English to-day call it *Canard River*. Eel Brook is the English translation of the Indian *Opi-omagogin*—"place for eels." Cranberry Head is simply the English of the Indian *Soonecatio*, "place for cranberries." *Membegwich* means "Little Harbour" and so the English call it Little Harbour.

In Nova Scotia a fair number of Indian names remain, though more might have been retained. A good many years

ago I picked up a torn newspaper. Examination showed it to contain some verses of poetry that seemed, both from the sentiment and the jingle, to be worthy of preservation. There was no name, assumed or real, of author attached to the poetry. I sent a copy to Beamish Murdock who embalmed the verses in his history of Nova Scotia without having been able to discover the author. I wrote to Angus Gidney, whose long experience on the Press and whose literary taste would likely enable him to throw light on the authorship, but neither he nor Mr. Calneck, to whom I also applied, could give any information. Lighthall mentions De Mill as probably the author. But De Mill when I asked him could give no clue. Rev. J. Campbell, who wrote a book on Yarmouth County, 1876, attributes it to "our esteemed fellow-citizen" Richard Huntingdon, with what degree of authority I know not. The verses themselves run as follows:—

The memory of the Redman
How can it pass away
While his names of music linger
On each mount and stream and bay;
While *Musquodoboit's* waters
Roll sparkling to the main,
While falls the laughing sunbeam
On *Chegogin's* fields of grain.

While floats our Country's banner
On *Chebucto's* glorious wave,
And the frowning cliffs of *Scatarie*
The trembling surges brave;
While breezy *Aspotogan*
Lifts high its summit blue;
And sparkles on its winding way
The gentle *Sissiboo*.

While *Escasoni's* fountains
Pour down their crystal tide;
While *Inganish's* mountains
Lift high their forms of pride;
Or while on *Mabou's* river
The boatman plies his oar;
Or the billows burst in thunder
On *Chicaben's* rock-girt shore,

The memory of the Redman !
 It lingers like a spell
 On many a storm-swept headland,
 In many a leafy dell ;
 Where *Tusket's* thousand islets
 Like emeralds stud the deep ;
 Where *Blomidon*, a sentry grim,
 His endless watch doth keep.

It dwells round *Catalone's* blue lake
 Mid leafy forests hid :
 Round fair *Discourse* and the rushing tide
 Of the turbid *Pisiquid*.
 And it lends, *Chebogue*, a touching grace
 To thy softly flowing river
 As we sadly think of the gentle race
 That has passed away forever.*

If we turn to the St. Lawrence River Provinces, we find the traces of the Indian everywhere. I can only give a few specimens and those in the briefest manner possible.

Quebec is Indian for the narrow strait formed by Cape Diamond jutting out into the river.

Ontario is Indian for a "beautiful prospect of hills and waters," or a corruption of the Indian word *Onitario*, meaning "beautiful lake or waters," the appropriateness of which, as of every place-name given by Indians is at once apparent; and the same may be said of the early French names the environment being the same in both cases. It is a good deal more than can be said of our English place-names although we in Canada may fairly and proudly boast of having carefully abstained from imitating the barbarities of our cousins to the south of us. When the traveller asked the French native what the river in one of the Western States was called over which he was ferrying the stranger, the answer was 'Bloody Gulch,' the Yankees call it; with us it is *La Brunette*—'the brown river.' "

*Fortunately the poet's vaticinal fears have not been realized. In the provinces of Quebec, Ontario, Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, Prince Edward Island and British Columbia there has been, under the wise and kindly care of the Government of Canada, acting through the Indian Department, an increase of 11,005 in the Indian population of those provinces during the past 25 years; an increase of nearly 24 per cent,

Lake Erie is the lake of the wild cats, or as my friend *Dr. Bourinot says, the lake of the *Raccoon*, the Indians resorting in the ancient times to the region round about for raccoons. *Lake Huron* is the lake of the Indian-Huron tribe who seem to have cultivated shocks of hair, (French *Hure*), similar to those of certain African tribes with which we of the present time are familiar from our geographies or from personal observation. *Lake Michigan* is from the Indian *Mishigan*, meaning *monstrous lake*; and *Lake Nipissing* is Indian for *diminutive*, the lake being small by the side of the great lakes. *Kaministiquia* means *wide river*. *Manitoulin* is a Frenchification of the Indian word *Manitouwahining*—"the dwelling place of spirits." *Mattawa* (Indian *Mataowan*) means "place where two rivers meet." *Ottawa*, according to Father Arnaud, means "the place where the water boils and surges" and according to Rev. Mr. Beatty, it means the "River guards," the Ottawa tribe of Indians being so called by the Indians of Montreal because they guarded the river and prevented the irruption of the more northerly tribes into the regions at the mouth of the river. Mr. Sulte thinks the word means "men of the woods." *Penetanguishene* means "rolling of shining sands." *Toronto* means "place of meeting"—a name that well characterizes it to-day, as the boast is that it is the City of Conventions.

When the St. Lawrence River Indians referred to the Maritime Provinces they called the region "Abenakis," derived from *Waben*—"it is dawn" and *Ykki*, "land;" or "land of the dawn or east." The English, who are essentially water-men, have seized upon the other peculiarity and call them the Maritime region. But the "Dawn" land is a fine poetic name.

Abittibi; (*Abitt* meaning "middle;" *Nipig* meaning "water") the middle water, Lake Abittibi being half way between Nipissing Lake and James Bay.

Athabasca; Ayapp as Kais, meaning "there are rushes, reeds or herbs here and there."

Ka Kouna; Kâkwa means porcupine; nak, "at the;" equal to "The Porcupine's home."

Chicoutimi; *Ishko*, "up to where;" *timiw*, "it is deep." "The end of deep water."

Shawenegan; *Shavo*, "through," *nigan*, "tool," needle

* I am proud to know that since the above was written the Doctor has received the well merited honour of a K.C.M. G. from the Sovereign.

or awl; the fall of water having acted like a tool to pierce the rock.

Escoumains means the berry region.

Yamachiche means muddy bottom and shore.

Yamaska means shore covered with reeds.

Kamouraska means reedy shore.

Mingan means the wolf region.

Maskinonge means the house of the marvellous Pike.

Missisquoi means the home of the big woman.

Madawaska means river having its outlet among reeds.

Mistassini means large stone lake.

Miscouche means the bear country.

Saguenay means outflowing water.

Temiscouata means deep everywhere.

Tadousac means the hillock region.

Caughnawaga means at the rapids.

Quente—Kahenta means meadow.

Hochelaga means Beaver Dam.

We must not longer dally with the beautiful Indian names beyond expressing a hope that the Post Office authorities, who are responsible for a great many place-names, will treat with tenderness any remaining Indian names, especially in the North West.

Time is left for only a few words about the 2nd class, the place-names memorizing men of local or Canadian fame.

George M. Dawson has, it seems to me, been especially careful to give prominence to our men of Canadian-made fame. Ogilvie's name has been blown about this pendant globe in connection with Canada's great treasure-house, the Klondyke. He stands for honesty and trustworthiness—a civil servant of whom the Service and the Country may well be proud. We know now what he has been doing as an explorer. But George Dawson years ago gave a valley in the Yukon District the name of Ogilvie Valley in honor of William. Both Dawson and Ogilvie commemorated that genial Minister of the Interior, Thomas White—the first in Mount White and the second in White Pass.

Sir William Logan's memory enjoys the unique distinction of having five monuments, three of them mounts, more enduring than brass or marble. Mount Logan near Lake Francis in Yukon given by Dawson; Mount Logan near

Mount Elias and Mount Logan in Rimouski County by Murray. The fourth is an island in the Nipigon region, given by Bell in 1869, and the fifth is Logan Inlet in Queen Charlotte Islands.

Lake and River Laberge (Yukon) are named after Mike Laberge who was engaged in exploring, for the Western Union Telegraph Co., the river and adjacent territory in Yukon for the purpose of connecting Europe and America by telegraph through Canada, Alaska and across Pehring Strait and on through Asia. The exploration took place in 1866-7. The successful laying of the Atlantic Cable in 1866 put an end to the project. Mike was on hand to greet Nansen in Montreal the other day. Telegraph Creek commemorates the same expedition. Mount Dawson, near Lake Laberge, and Dawson City are place-names which tell of one of the most indefatigable explorers of modern days, one whose career does honor to the Civil Service of Canada. The men of the Geological Survey are worthy of praise because they have in so many instances retained the Indian names.

In 1864 a notable gathering took place in the historical City of Quebec. There were gathered men from the provinces of Canada, (now Ontario and Quebec,) from Prince Edward Island, from Newfoundland, from New Brunswick and Nova Scotia. They met to see what could be done to bring about the amalgamation of British North America. To this gathering came the venerable Taché, the astute John A. Macdonald, the fiery Cartier, the splendid debater McDougall, the great Ontario George Brown, the able financier Galt, the shrewd Mowat, the eloquent McGee, the vehement Tupper, the suave Archibald, the trusted Tilley, the active Mitchell, the keen-minded Fisher and many others of whom time fails me to tell. They debated and discussed. Many suspicions were in the public mind. But in secrecy, as was necessary, they worked and hammered till they produced 72 resolutions which, after being fused in the alembic of the statute-shapers of the British Parliament, were placed upon the Imperial Statute book as the *Union Act of 1867*. Those who took part in this historical work have been remembered in the place-names Taché, Macdonald (municipality and mount) McDougall, Brown, Campbell, Mowat, Langevin, Tupper, Tilley, Archibald, Johnston and Chapais. There are some others whose names might well

be adopted as place-names and there are some—such as Galt and Cartier and Grey—whose names had already been employed before the Quebec Conference took place.

Morris in Manitoba commemorates Alexander Morris, a man who strove to make his country great and prosperous. De Salaberry, of whose good works Sulte has sung, is remembered in Salaberry in the French district of Provencher.

We recognize at once, in the place-names of Burpee and Bidwell and Billings and Dawson (ex M.P.) and Howland and Mills and Robinson and Sandfield and Brantford and Papineau, Lauder, Osler, Widdifield, Kirkpatrick, Hagerman, Blake, Lount, Himsforth, Chapleau, Schreiber—public men who have worked for the best interests of the country.

Of course this vein might be worked and results produced for a whole night. What has been said must suffice.

And yet we have but skirted the shores of the subject. An inexhaustible supply is untouched.

Some place-names are corruptions arising from misunderstanding of previous names. We have had place-names given by Basques, Portuguese, Spaniards, French and English. Some of these earlier place-name givers bestowed names that from the ignorance or carelessness of subsequent generations of different races have been subjected to much phonetic abrasion, and in some instances mutilated beyond all recognition. In London, Eng., under the operation of this factor there is *Shermon* Lane, the origin of which is traced to Shermonier's lane—the lane in which stood the office of the *money-shearers*, or clippers connected with the Mint. So in Canada a mountain near the head of the Bay of Fundy is known as the Shepody Mountain. The name (so say some) the French gave it was *Chapeau de dieu*, from the cap of cloud which often overhangs it. The English who followed continued the name as Chipody and later as Shepody.

Down in the Gulf of St. Lawrence forming the most easterly point of the north shore of Baie des Chaleurs is Cape d'Espoir, so named because it was a welcome sight to early French fishermen who had lost their bearings in a storm. The English call it *Cape Despair* and the lugubrious change is reported to have been intentional having been caused by the total loss there of an English troopship carrying a portion of Sir Hovenden Walker's squadron in 1711. We have added to our list of post offices in this very year of grace, 1897, the post office of Cape Despair.

One of the gates in the picturesque City of Quebec was called the *Hope* gate, after one of the Hope family. The French christened it *Porte de l'Esperance*.

Cap Faim, commemorative no doubt of an unpleasant experience of hunger by a band of early navigators, has, under the phonetic spell of English sailors, been transformed into Cape Fame.

Sir James Le Moine tells how one Shepard built a villa and called it Shepardville, near the City of Quebec, and around it in time clustered some *habitants'* houses. To the cluster the French gave the name Bergerville, translating the English word "shepherd" into the French vernacular, as was natural. Subsequently, Irish settlers multiplied and with characteristic *insouciance* they called the place *Beggarsville*. Once again the French got the upper hand, and, with characteristic politeness, translated the Irish name into "Village des Queteux," not *village des gueux*—the village of the alms-takers, not the village of the beggars—a nice distinction.

Cape Speer in Newfoundland was originally Cap-da-Espera, Portuguese for Cape Hope. Nobody sees even a homeopathic scintilla of *hope* in its present name. Cape Raz was Portuguese for Flat Cape. Its present name, Cape Race, carries with it no suggestion of flatness. Cape Ray comes from the Basque word *arraico* meaning "approach," the point for turning has been reached." It is Ray by corruption. It would need a Roentgen Ray to uncover its original.

Some place-names have a singular power of asserting themselves against persistent efforts to change them; thus, Basin Minas was originally so called. It then became, in French, Basin Mines, but as there were no mines in the vicinity it has got back to its original Portuguese rendering, Minas, "where there are springs."

Bay of Fundy was originally Baya Funda, Portuguese for Deep Bay. The French called it La Baie Francaise. But its original name clung to it in spite of the long French occupation of Acadia.

Imagination, a lively fancy, plays a not inconsiderable part in the efforts to account for many place-names. Thus one of the fanciful derivations of the word "Quebec" is "O! *quel bec*" freely translated "O! what a beak," supposed to have been uttered by the French sailors when they first saw

the giant headland looming up as mysterious as the great *roc* of "The Arabian Nights."

In New Brunswick a river is called, in local parlance, *Ken-ne-bec-ay'shus*, and local tradition, in endeavoring to account for the name, affirms that once on a time when the river banks and the adjacent country were covered with a dense forest there stood on the clearing, before the river, a tavern, the proprietor of which was named *Casey*. Two travelers in a terrible storm pushed on their way and coming suddenly upon the house thought of the comfort the inn and its accompanying "hot toddy" would afford and asked each other with incredulous joy, "Can it be Casey's?" Hence, of course, the name.

There are two mountains near the border line of the two fine Counties of Colchester and Pictou in Nova Scotia, Mount Thom and Mount Ephraim. Local tradition gives the following account of the origin of these place-names. The early settlers of Truro, Nova Scotia, came from New Hampshire (New England) and for a time lived in great terror of the Indians and accordingly they resorted at night to a stockaded fort where they might sleep without dreaming of wild Indians, war-whoops, tomahawks and scalping knives. On one occasion word was sent to them from Halifax warning them of the hostile intentions of a large band of Indians in camp at or near Pictou. The settlers resolved upon sending scouts across country to find out. Tom Archibald, Ephraim Howard and John Oughterson volunteered for the service. After journeying for some time through the dense forest they came to a hill according to their calculations not far from Pictou. Selecting the tallest tree Oughterson said to Archibald "Mount, Tom." Tom in obedience to the order mounted the tree. Not seeing the water from his lofty perch, he so reported and the trio travelled some distance further and came to another hill where they repeated the effort to see salt water, only on this occasion the command was addressed to Howard, "Mount, Ephraim." On their return to Truro they described the incidents of their expedition and among these were the tree-mounting exploits. Naturally the hill where Tom climbed the tree became known as Thom's Mount and the other as Ephraim's Mount. Hence to this day Mount Thom and Mount Ephraim remain the distinguishing place-names of these two elevations.

I have thus very imperfectly given a partial view of the

place-names of Canada. It will be in the future increasingly difficult to bestow appropriate place-names. Now that we are one country we must avoid the duplications that have come to us as a legacy from the ante-confederation period. Perforce, the fund of appropriate names from France and Great Britain nears the bottom. We have not by any means exhausted the names of the saints in the Roman and Saxon Hagiologies but as we had 499 places in the Census commemorative of these worthies and have a good many more of them outside of the Census lists it is plain that we cannot depend much longer upon the saints to supply us with place-names.*

The finer taste of modern times requires that we do not imitate our neighbors and hunt in ancient Greek history for such names as Athens, Troy, Tyre, Sidon, or give such fantastic names as Tomb City, Henpeck City and the like. The practical tendency of the age is opposed to names having an eponymic† existence. Isaac Taylor, already quoted, says, "If the true principles of Anglo-Saxon nomenclature were understood our Anglo-American and Australian cousins might construct an endless series of fresh names which might be at once harmonious, distinctive, characteristic and in entire consonance with the genius of the language."

I suggest that it would be a step in the right direction for the Government to appoint a permanent commission of three or more competent persons to provide the new place-names we are continually needing.

*The extent to which Canadians were a maritime people, in the early years, is seen in the fact that there are, in the Dominion, 55 places to which the name of Ste. Anne, the Patron Saint of sailors, has been given.

†A personal name evolved by popular speculation to account for some geographical term the true meaning of which has not been understood; as the speculation that France takes its name from Francus, a son of Hector; and Britain from Brydain, a son of Aenius; and Scotland from Scotia, a daughter of Pharoah.

P. S.--Page xix, line 5. Since writing that the C. P. Ry. is responsible for the place name of Mount Macdonald, I found from official reports that this Mountain, as well as others, was named by Mr. Otto J. Klotz, our efficient President, who was the first to triangulate the mountains in the Rockies and Selkirks along the route of the C. P. Ry.

G. J.